Trainee produced carpets in the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) sold to the U.P. Export Corporation

3500. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) What are the details of trainee produced carpets in the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) sold to the U.P. Export Corporation without final fixation of rates and the amount due from the Corporation;

(b) Whether any time limit was fixed for payment and whether any interest was recovered on payments received beyond the due dates and if so. the details thereof: and

(c) If no penal interest was recovered for late payment of dues, the reasons therefor and the action proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) A statement is attached. (*see* below).

(b) There is a time limit of six months. The bills in the above cases are yet to be preferred: hence question of payment beyond due date and interest does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Carpets produced by trainees are sold to public sector corporations, as per carpet disposal policy, before fixation of final price subject to obtaining an undertaking from the latter that the price as fixed by Government shall be paid by the corporation. Such trainee produced carpets have been lifted by Uttar Pradesh Export Corporation from time to time, but the details of carpets for which payment is to be made by the Uttar Pradesh Export Corporation are as follows :

Sl. No.	Lifted from Region	No. of pieces	Approximate value
1	2	3	4
			(Rs. in lakhs)
1.	U.P..	282	10.23
2.	Northern Region	101	2.50
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	56	2.00

Raid at the premises of Maruti Dealers in Delhi and Faridabad

3501. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Income Tax Department has unearthed a racket in which a number of Maruti dealers of Delhi and Faridabad were involved and has seized from their premises fixed deposit receipts for Maruti cars worth several crores of rupees; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what is the outcome thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) and (b) Searches were conducted under Section 132 of the Income-tax Act at the business, factory and residential premises of a dealer in Maruti vehicles and its associate concerns at Delhi and Faridabad on the 8th August, 1990. In the course of the search cash of Rs. 5.25 lakhs and incriminating documents were seized. 2916 Fixed Deposit Receipts of aggregate value of Rs. 10.20 crores were found and placed under restraint under Section 132 (3) of the Income-tax Act.

Scrutiny of documents seized and the follow-up action as called for under the Income-tax Act have been taken up.

Promotion of Tourism in Gujarat

3502. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a decline in tourist traffic to Gujarat during the last one year;

(b) if so, what is the total number of foreign as well as domestic tourists who visited Gujarat last year; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to promote tourism in Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK) : (a) As per the information available from the State Government, there was no decline in total tourist traffic to Gujarat during 1989. However, there was some decline in foreign tourist traffic to the State during the year.

(b) The number of foreign and domestic tourists who visited Gujarat during 1989 were 4,801 and 106,655 respectively.

(c) Steps taken to promote tourism in Gujarat, include continued upgradation of tourism infra-structural facilities with the assistance of Central Government and wide publicity of tourist destinations of Gujarat both within the country and abroad.

Posting of Handicrafts Promotion Officers outside Delhi

3503. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that two Handicrafts Promotion Officers selected by the U.P.S.C. with clear instruction for posting outside Delhi in Marketing and Service Extension Centre of the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) were absorbed in the Head Quarter Office at New Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that for their absorption in Delhi, two Senior Handicraft Promotion Officers were transferred outside Delhi, defying all norms; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. UPSC gave no such instructions. However, it is true that two of the selected candidates were posted in Delhi.

(b) No, Sir. Only one Handicrafts Promotion Officer was transferred. No norms were defied.

(c) One Handicrafts Promotion Officer, who had been posted in Delhi for over 10 years, was transferred. He has also since been posted back to Delhi.

Joint venture agreement of IPIC, Orissa with M/s. Novopanels India Ltd.

3504. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that after obtaining letter of intent in December, 1982, the Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa, a State Government undertaking entered into a joint venture agreement with M/s. Novopanels India Ltd., for setting up a project to manufacture Chip Board in the industrially backward district of Koraput;

(b) whether Government are also aware that an application for term loan submitted to the IDBI by the company for execution of the project is pending clearance since long, thereby delaying the project; and

(c) if so, what steps are contemplated by Government to expedite the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) to (c) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that Novopanels India Ltd., was promoted by Novopan India Limited and IPICOL in June, 1987 to set up a plant for the manufacture of particle boards at Pungar, Koraput District, Orissa. The promoters approached the institutions for financial assistance in September, 1989. After discussions the institutions felt that the project would not be support-worthy in view of its being wood based, likely difficulties in procuring raw-material and the use of second-hand plant and machinery.

IDBI has further reported that the company has subsequently requested for its application to be kept in abeyance.